

2017

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Revamped Chicken Finger Wednesday presents new options

T. Michael Boddie
@THEHUMANBODDIE

I stood in a queue at the Russell House hot line just past 11 a.m. on Wednesday, anticipating the same thing I'd seen every Wednesday since I started at USC in 2015: chicken fingers. The tradition proudly upheld at the university, Chicken Finger Wednesday, was and still is nothing short of a staple of student life.

Quickly but efficiently stockpiling bowls full of lightly breaded poultry and curly fries, culinary staff members who used to wear the name "Sodexo" on their uniforms now sport "Aramark," a company to which USC Dining made a switch after the 2016-17 academic year.

I noticed changes immediately.

The thickly breaded, fast-food-like chicken fingers that brought in hundreds of students still exist, but they are now accompanied by grilled versions of themselves to be served with mashed potatoes for those who would prefer not to eat deep-fried foods. In other words, options have expanded.

"We missed it last week, but then we heard there

was a lot of hype about it," said first-year pre-business student Mary Kate Gelzer. "I think it's going to become a regular thing for me."

There was hype, indeed. In August, a few days before new students moved in, UofSC Student Affairs tweeted at UofSC Dining, saying, "Wow. We are obsessed with the new and improved Chicken Finger Wednesday dishes," with a photo of the new chicken fingers with cheesy mashed potatoes.

Gelzer and her friend, first-year pre-business student Abby McMillan, both enjoy what Chicken Finger Wednesday has to offer.

Since I knew that first-year students had little, if anything, to which they could compare their experience, I also spoke with students older than Gelzer and McMillan.

Second-year public

health student Lauren Medlin saw no issue with the changes, being that the "original" option is still available. She and her friend, second-year experimental psychology student Melissa Lapierre, are rather hopeful that the changes are for the better.

"I feel like last year there was a range of how the chicken fingers would be," Lapierre said. Medlin clarified, "They had their good days and bad days."

This reporter has consumed too many chicken fingers over the years to count, but he still looks forward to enjoying the "new and improved" breaded blessings this semester.



Gamecocks put recruits to test in four-day tryouts



Mike Woodel / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Prospective USC hockey players line up for a drill at Plex HiWire ice rink Monday.

Mike Woodel
@GETHISDOGONETOO

The USC hockey club took put the "labor" in Labor Day this year, pushing themselves through an hour of laps, drills and sprints at Plex HiWire's Irmo ice rink Monday night.

Head coach Allan Sirois made it clear that the best 25 players trying out for the team will lead Carolina into battle starting next week – whether they made last fall's roster or not. With two workouts and two scrimmages against Coastal Carolina still to come, the 40-some players on the ice are pacing themselves but still skating hard.

The rookies are eager to prove themselves. The returning players, 15 to 20 of whom team president Duncan Hickman expects to make the team, know how much it means to wear the garnet and black, even at the club level.

"I started out, it was just something, a way to keep in the game, stay in shape, do something active, but I met a lot of great guys on the team," said forward Sean Davis, a second-year civic engineering student. "It's actually much more competitive than I thought it would be. Lot of intensity."

This fall's team could face the highest

expectations in the club's 16-year history. The Gamecocks are coming off a 15-12-1 campaign that saw them come up just short of the Southeastern Collegiate Hockey Conference championship game. Goaltender Bobby Lombardi stopped 60 of 65 shots in a semifinal against Georgia Feb. 11, but a go-ahead goal from the Ice Dawgs' Carter Penzien with 2:29 left in the game made the difference in a 5-4 decision. Georgia defeated Ole Miss 9-2 the next day for their second consecutive conference championship.

Despite a dramatic ending, Carolina's season was not without

its highlights. The Gamecocks won each of their final eight regular season games between Dec. 3 and Feb. 18, finishing with a 5-2 home win over Clemson. The streak helped earn the team a spot in the American Collegiate Hockey Association's South Regional Tournament, where they took South Florida into overtime on Feb. 24 before falling 1-0.

The Gamecocks will see much of their 2016-17 squad return but lost a key player in defenseman Kyle Ware, who graduated in the spring. The Michigan native led the Gamecocks with 21 goals in 2016-17, including four in an 11-2 road win over UNC Wilmington on Jan. 20.

After the first drill of Monday's session, Sirois tweeted his whistle from the bench and sent everyone sprinting around the rink for two laps. Some took a knee before Sirois and his clipboard to catch their breath after finishing, while the rest went straight for the water bottles.

"You're tired already? What'd you guys do this summer?" Sirois joked before adding, "Don't answer that."

This got a laugh, but some might not have touched the ice since February. Some, even longer.

SEEHOCKEYPAGE8

Addiction recovery tough for USC students

Larissa Johnson
@LALARISSAJ

The room is silent except for the distant sound of squeaking basketball shoes. Fanned out on a coffee table are some magazines, and perfectly aligned piles of handouts advertising counseling and tutoring sit untouched in the corner. Tucked in the back of the third floor in the Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center, the Gamecock Recovery and Study Space appears unused.

"If I was a new student on campus, new to recovery, 18, 19 years old, and I was looking for a place to be accepted and to hang out, that would be the last place that I would ever consider going," fourth-year history student Brock Parrot said.

The location alone – next to two faculty cubicles and far from the center of campus – is enough to keep the room empty. But that doesn't mean that there isn't a need for recovery services on campus; instead, it speaks to the difficulties in reaching out to students.

"College students are a unique population," social work graduate student Melissa Westlake said. "It's extremely challenging because you can provide all these resources to students, you can have drop-in centers for recovery, but will students use them?"

Alcohol abuse is almost celebrated in college, and a lot of USC students go out multiple times a week. While it's difficult to get a complete estimate of how many students at the University of South Carolina have a substance abuse problem, a national study in 2012 found that 5.4 percent of college students have abused prescription opioids. At USC, that's almost 2,000 students.

In a college culture widely accepting the abuse of other prescription drugs like Adderall and Xanax – up to a third of college students try Adderall at least once – taking pills like Oxycontin and Vicodin can seem normal, especially in a social setting. We all know that one person who got high in a Five Points bathroom on some unknown substance.

"A lot of the college environment is catered to drinking, partying, and doing that whole lifestyle," public administration masters student Tyler Crochet said. "I knew I didn't want to do any of that."

Crochet came to USC after dropping out of LSU addicted to pain medication. He completed several treatment programs,

including one in Sumter, South Carolina.

Before he even arrived on USC's campus, he realized there was a need for a student recovery group. Many universities offer services tailored to students in recovery, from specialized counseling and tutoring housing to scholarships.

The College of Charleston recently started a recovery program that drew 14 students, according to an article from The State. Crochet estimates that a similar program at USC would see proportional enrollment, or about 45 students.

The problem, as always, is the cost. While the College of Charleston received a large grant for its program and some states have funding allocated to universities for the purpose, USC would have to move money from elsewhere.

Crochet started a group called Gamecock Recovery to create a community for students looking for a substance-free college experience. The group meets weekly for coffee and discussion.

Crochet said that running Gamecock Recovery as an actual service, which he thinks it should be, requires a full-time staff member.

"It's more of just a social club at this point," he said, because the organization lacks funding to create real perks for its members. Four to 15 students usually attend events, mostly friends of Crochet and Parrot that they met through other recovery efforts.

While the South Carolina legislature has made some efforts to improve treatment and accessibility, it, too, faces a funding problem.

The 2017 Governor's Opioid Summit, held Wednesday and Thursday in Columbia, brings different groups together to discuss and collaborate on the opioid epidemic in South Carolina.

"I think people perceive a need, at least, now, and so there's a lot more attention that's being directed at addiction," Westlake said, whose sister has an opioid use disorder.

Recent large drug busts – 17 pounds of heroin were seized in Greenville in one week this summer – have commanded community attention. And as more and more people are affected personally by the epidemic, acceptance and recognition grows.

"We're not bad people doing bad things," Parrot said. "As human beings, we're all tribal. We all want a sense of belonging and purpose."

And they're not finding that sense of belonging in Strom.

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IN BRIEF

McMaster declares state of emergency as Irma approaches

Gov. Henry McMaster declared a state of emergency Wednesday in anticipation of Hurricane Irma. Though the storm is still days away from reaching the Palmetto State, an emergency declaration clears a path for state agencies to work together in preparation for the storm's impacts. McMaster took to Twitter on Wednesday to encourage South Carolinians to prepare for the arrival of the strong tropical system.

"We don't know yet if #Irma will hit us, but we want everyone to be prepared in case we need to evacuate," he wrote. "Know your route, fill your prescriptions and gas tank, take care of your animals, and be ready to leave and not return for several days. We are hoping and praying for the best, but preparing for the worst."
— Compiled by Mary Ramsey, News Editor




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Cat Galan: Bringing classical elements to contemporary music

Mattie Hibbs
@TDG_ARTS

In a way, the name Cat Galan is a phonetic intensive — one of those phrases whose sound imitates the thing it describes. What I mean by this is “Cat Galan” sounds like a unique individual. Someone who understands music and words. Someone who carries themselves softly and speaks with intention and has a cautious kind of ambition about them.

I met up with Galan last Thursday afternoon, the same day she and her bandmates were to open up for Atlas Road Crew at Main Street Public House. She’s a second-year music performance student at USC and she focuses on the violin.

Galan began classical training at the age of five with her two brothers, but she is the only one who stuck with it.

USC professor William Terwilliger teaches violin at the School of Music and has been working with Galan since she was in high school.

“I think the world of Catherine ... in fact, her whole family is very talented,” Terwilliger said.

Both Terwilliger and Galan described her parents as “very supportive” of the kids’ musical endeavors.

Galan’s older brother grew to love guitar, and it wasn’t long before she started performing at gigs with him.

“We’d do acoustic stuff — he would play guitar and sing and I would sing with him ... we started doing that when I was eleven,” Galan said.

This was the beginning of her singing career, though it wasn’t until she was 17 that Galan began to take lessons, which helped with technique and enabled her to teach vocal lessons to others.

Galan’s instrumental expertise is similar to language proficiency in that

there are a couple things in which she is fluent — voice and violin — but there are others in which she dabbles, including guitar, cello and piano.

One of Galan’s major focuses right now is the band she’s in, Bellavida, meaning “beautiful life.” Bellavida has been together for a little over two years, and Galan herself was the last member to join.

“They kind of had their own thing going and then they wanted a different instrument,” Galan said, “and the guitar player at the time knew me ... so I went and joined the band.”

Galan’s understanding of classical violin adds a unique element to the band’s sound. Terwilliger emphasized that he loves to see his students discover the possibilities of string instruments outside of their conventional place chamber music.

“It’s great because the violin sings. She’s a singer, but she understands how the violin can sing as well,” Terwilliger said.

Bellavida started off as many groups do: performing covers. But they crossed the threshold that most young bands don’t — writing original music and rehearsing on a consistent basis.

“We had regular practice and songwriting and stuff like that, so we were pretty serious about it so that was new for me actually, but I grew to really love it,” Galan said.

Each week consists of anywhere from two to four hours of practice, along with one performance on average.

And taking the music seriously has paid off. They now have a manager, Trevor Guyton, who approached them after a show at New Brooklyn Tavern and loved their music immediately.

“He’s become another member of the band, he’s like family. He works so hard



Courtesy of Jorge Galan

Galan’s contribution of vocals, violin, and keyboard to Bellavida is a testament to her talent as a musician.

and never asks for anything,” Galan said of Guyton.

Bellavida won a Battle of the Bands competition back in May, which got them a spot in the Charleston Music Confab — a major networking opportunity for artists and music professionals — and most of their recent time has been spent preparing for it. The band headed down to Charleston just one day after my interview with Galan.

Bellavida’s first EP, “Letters to Rose,” was released last September, and they hope to work on a full album sometime in the near future.

In terms of longterm goals, the band has different ideas about what may be in store. Galan and her brother like to keep a practical mindset while other members aim high.

“Logan and Blake are shooting far and thinking ahead, which I think is great ... I’m just kind of thinking one step at a time,” Galan said.

It is easy to look at a group like Bellavida and assume that their success has been linear, but this is hardly ever the case. They have had to overcome setbacks to get where they are.

For example, Bellavida’s bassist left last year, and it was difficult to fill that gap.

“It was hard finding a good replacement because he’s really talented, and also, the way we look at it, it’s not just a player. We also have a special friendship with each of our members,” Galan said.

The bassist ended up coming back, but it was a challenging time.

“I think it brought us closer as a band, just getting through that together, and it worked out,” Galan said.

As for the music itself, Bellavida is relatively flexible about what genre they fall into. The band has been described as “acoustic-driven rock” and indie pop-rock, but Galan doesn’t see the group as fitting into one particular category.

There are a variety of music tastes within the band too. Galan personally likes Amy Winehouse’s singing style, as well as Ella Fitzgerald’s. Some of her other music preferences include John Mayer and MUSE.

It is fascinating to see a musician such as Galan merge two very different types of music — classical with contemporary. While working with Bellavida is a major part of Galan’s life, she still practices violin in the more traditional sense. This summer, for example, Galan traveled to Germany for the Saarbürg International Music Festival.

“These were very demanding chamber works that she did,” Dr. Terwilliger said, “She really did beautifully.”

He believes the trip helped her grow as a musician and a person, and that it was important for her to spend time in a place where so many classical compositions were born.

Galan is young, relatively speaking, and from this vantage point her possibilities seem endless. Though she may like to keep a cautious optimism about her, she’s already won people over — people who think she has what it takes to go far, like Dr. Terwilliger and Trevor Guyton.

Without really trying, she’s won me over too. I’m convinced that Cat Galan can take this music thing as far as she wants it to go.

Review: ‘Whose Streets?’ sheds light on disturbing injustice



Taylor Harrison/ THE DAILY GAMECOCK

After the screening of “Whose Streets?” a panel facilitated a conversation about the film.

Taylor Harrison
@TAYLORM_HARRISO

The Nickelodeon debuted a powerful documentary called “Whose Streets?” on the events surrounding the 2014 Brown v. Ferguson trial. The film is filled with interviews from those who witnessed the shooting of Michael Brown and from those who organized and participated in the peaceful protests against police brutality following the incident.

“Whose Streets?” not only illustrates the injustice of America’s police force regarding the protection of minorities, but paints a mural of brave individuals of all colors coming together to remind the public of the unifying words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, which outlines the undeniable rights of all peoples.

Though the film contains multiple segments of home videos, the lack of high-definition imaging does not take away from the overall impact. If anything, the videos make

the incident more relatable, so that other communities can understand its direct effects on the residents of Ferguson. The scenes are eye-opening and heart-wrenching.

“Whose Streets?” does a wonderful job of portraying the aftermath of the Brown’s death; however, the film rarely focuses on the events leading up to it, such as why the shooting occurred in the first place. A comprehensive description of the police’s reasoning behind the shooting would have added a nice finishing touch to the documentary.

What could be misinterpreted as a lack of focus regarding the multiple perspectives of “Whose Streets?” is actually what makes the film an appropriate portrayal of the community. The balance of news clips, social media posts and interviews with residents makes the film not only a disturbing reality, but also a privilege to watch.

This film was a part of The Nickelodeon’s “For the Record” series, which hosts select documentaries and after-film discussions each month.

Marvel Legacy gives false sense of hope, seeks profit

William Outlaw
@JW_OUTLAW

Just over a year ago, DC Comics launched their Rebirth initiative that firmly reinstated some aspects of the universe that fans had been missing for years. Though 2011’s “New 52” was a financial, and arguably a creative success, sales were dwindling. DC decided to finally listen to fan outcry and inject more hope and optimism into their comics, all while bringing back old relationships, storylines, and events that had been swept under the rug in 2011. DC Rebirth was a critical and commercial success, and there has not been a single cancellation of a Rebirth title since its inception.

With this information in mind, it’s easy to understand why Marvel would want to set out to do the same thing. Though Marvel has consistently been ahead of DC Comics in unit sales and dollars, this is mostly due to the sheer quantity of comics that Marvel is putting out (which includes the lucrative Star Wars line). Whereas most DC titles consistently hover at around 30,000 issues sold per month, Marvel has several titles that quickly drop in sales — forcing Marvel to relaunch with a new #1 issue. Steve Fox at Paste reports, “Sales attrition is a constant in comics. First issues almost always sell much better than subsequent installments, and so publishers aim for steady, sustainable numbers following debuts. DC Comics isn’t immune to low-selling titles, but... Marvel’s attrition pattern has been much more dramatic.” Sales continue to dip as readers wait for the next “jumping on point,” which now means a new #1.

In addition to constant relaunchees, Marvel has been known to use variant covers to make artificial spikes in sales.

Recently, comic shop owners have boycotted the Marvel Legacy lenticular cover variants because of the exorbitant increase in supply needed to qualify for the limited edition covers. Many retailers voiced their dissatisfaction with being forced to order up to 200% more issues to get the variant covers. The Hollywood Reporter helps to describe the predicament with this hypothetical: “Say you run a store, and you regularly order 10 copies of Iron Man. Marvel will ask that you order double your regular batch in order to gain access to the lenticular covers. So if your 10 regular customers all want the lenticular cover, then you’ll have to order 30 copies in total: The original 10 regular covers, an additional 10 regular covers to hit the “200 percent” sales level, and then another 10, because those are your lenticular orders.”

It seems apparent that Marvel is losing a lot of good will with retailers, but even audiences are annoyed with the direction many characters have gone within the pages themselves. Captain America (Steve Rogers) was revealed to be a Hydra agent, The Falcon took up the persona of Captain America in his absence, Wolverine is a grown up X-23, The Hulk is a teenager, Thor is a woman, Iron Man is dead, and until recently, Spider-Man was a billionaire scientist. Development is always hard to do in endless serials like superhero comics, but Marvel has clearly overstepped its bounds on what fans are willing to take. DC made conscious effort to change creative teams and relaunch their titles with new directions in Rebirth, but unfortunately everything but the numbering of comics under Marvel Legacy (which artificially makes a series look longer than it is) is remaining fairly the same.



Courtesy of Marvel Comics

This is not an attack on Marvel, but rather a plea that Marvel will start being the retailer-friendly publisher again. On the same token, this perspective is also not a hot take; several other comic journalists have shared their disappointment on other outlets. IGN’s Jesse Schedeen eloquently surmises the differences between Rebirth and Legacy here:

“I want to be optimistic that Legacy can help put Marvel back on track and do for the company what Rebirth has done for DC. There are some very obvious comparisons to be drawn between the two relaunchees... But Rebirth is about more than making specific status quo changes or altering team rosters or reverting to certain books to legacy numbering. Rebirth is a meta-story that acknowledges that things went wrong at DC during the New 52 and makes the very effort to address those mistakes into one of the biggest and most important tales the company has ever told.”

A healthy Marvel Comics makes for a healthy comics industry. Let’s all hope Marvel can get back on the right track after Marvel Legacy.

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Don’t use public funds for crisis relief

Bryce Wilson
Third-year political science and history major

As most of us are aware, Hurricane Harvey recently ripped through the Gulf Coast, leaving a path of devastation and especially affecting Houston. While tragic, I think the event has helped to unite us as a country and remind us that at the end of the day, we are all Americans.

But now comes the rebuilding, a prolonged effort in areas devastated in the way Houston was. While Harvey is over, another storm is brewing in Washington, DC — the budget battle, an entrenched fight that becomes much more complex with the necessity for new allocations of emergency funds.

Congress has until Sept. 30 to make a new budget and ultimately raise the debt ceiling in order to prevent a government shutdown. Meanwhile, on the ground in Houston, President Trump has promised to do whatever it takes to help rebuild after Harvey. Which almost certainly means more funds to aid the relief effort.

FEMA currently has \$3.3 billion in funds for disaster relief. Estimates by Moody’s Analytics have the damage costs of Harvey somewhere between \$40 billion to \$50 billion. So the question is: Where is the rest of the money going to come from?

This much I can say — It shouldn’t be from the government.

Allocating more funds could move up the already-looming deadline to raise the debt ceiling and result in another

government shutdown. We cannot disregard the fact that raising the debt ceiling inches us even closer to the \$20 trillion mark for our federal deficit.

But the reality is that it is going to be almost impossible for Congress to not pass additional funds in response to Harvey. So what it has to do now is prioritize the spending.

Spending money on a border wall in Texas seems even more impractical than it did before, with the economic devastation that occurred on the Texas coastline. The hurricane may eliminate Republicans’ ability to levy any sort of spending cuts if relief funding gets lumped into an increased spending package. With the devastation in the state, voting against a package that includes relief funding would be near political suicide.

But no matter how Congress reacts to Harvey or how much money it ends up allocating for the relief effort, the responsibility ultimately falls on the shoulders of the average American. As seen in past disasters — like Hurricane Katrina, where school buses sat idle in New Orleans as private hospitals helped evacuees by flying them out in their private helicopters — when government fails they get a “bigger budget and more power,” resulting in more bureaucracy.

In times of crisis, the individuals and the private sector have often been much more efficient than the government. The more we do to help, the less our government has to spend, so hopefully the answer in what the government should do in response to Harvey is nothing. But that will depend on private citizens.

Columbia’s infrastructure can’t withstand hurricanes



Dan Nelson
Third-year public health major

Flood week has started to become a regular occurrence at our university. Roughly the same time every year, South Carolina seems to face significant threats of flooding or, as in 2015, significant flooding itself. With the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration now predicting South Carolina to be in

Hurricane Irma’s crosshairs, we may again be facing threats of devastating flooding. If anything, this should highlight just how important flood preparedness, particularly in infrastructure, can be.

The historic 2015 flooding in our state resulted in 19 deaths and \$1.492 billion in damage. “Approximately 410 roads and bridges, including 74 miles of I-95 between I-26 and I-20, were closed during the event,” said a National Weather Service report. This massive destruction cannot be overstated.

“There were 36 dam failures. Some major reservoirs, such as the Saluda Dam at Lake Murray, initiated flood control releases,” the report later stated. Parts of the state could have been described, quite literally, as having been underwater.

Hurricane Mathew, in the following year, also hit the state hard. While Columbia fared much better this time around, the coastal areas of the state were hit hard yet again with “exceptionally heavy rain totaling 10 to 18 inches [falling] across large sections of eastern South and North Carolina.” North Carolina took the brunt of the storm, but South Carolina still reported significant damage with 833,000 people losing power, “portions of Interstate 95” shut down and major evacuations.

With Hurricane Irma bearing down on at the state, one can only guess what sort of damage we will face this time around. Unfortunately, the prognosis isn’t good. Current models have Irma hitting the state as a Category 3 hurricane. We should expect, if Irma comes in at that strength,

massive rainfall and winds as high as 125 miles per hour. Considering how much damage Matthew caused as just a Category 1 hurricane, we should be prepared for significant damage.

It seems as though South Carolina really can’t catch a break. However, this is not all just bad luck. Poor long term planning at the Statehouse has placed the state in a bind. Infrastructure spending has been historically poor in South Carolina, with roads, bridges, dams and coastal protection projects all suffering from a lack of long term investment. For example, 16 percent of roads and over 10 percent of bridges are in a poor state. This disrepair can prove deadly during a natural disaster, with road washouts and bridge collapses posing a significant risk to the population as well as hampering emergency responses. Furthermore, while cities like Charleston are taking steps to protect themselves from floods and storm surges, other coastal cities lack the local funding to do the same. Without intervention from the state, many of these cities will suffer from problems they have no ability to protect themselves from.

The state has taken some steps to address this problem, increasing infrastructure spending and passing the new gas tax. However, infrastructure investments take years to fully be realized, meaning we’re just playing a game of catch up instead of proactively dealing with problems that place the state at risk. Every year, South Carolinians suffer due to the state’s inaction and lack of forethought in this area. Hopefully the state government doesn’t need yet another wake up call to the disastrous implications of underfunded infrastructure. We’ve suffered enough.

With that in mind, I hope we are ready for Hurricane Irma, I hope we learned the lessons of the past few years and I hope we will realize that many of our problems are self-inflicted. For South Carolina to be truly safe, we must take our infrastructure seriously, even if this means higher taxes. We should not put the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of thousands at risk just save a buck.

Cut out Carolina Core requirements



Isabelle Carroll
Second-year public relations major

Four years. That’s the goal that the University of South Carolina has in mind for its students. Four years of classes and then, if all goes according plan, the university gets to hand you your hard earned diploma. It seems like a lot of work to do for one small slip of paper saying you are certified to work in a certain field.

Nowadays, however, college degrees are all but required at many work places. So I understand why college is necessary, but what I don’t understand is why general education courses are.

If you’ve ever been to an advising appointment, you’ve no doubt had the list of Carolina Core courses laid out in front of you and been told you will have to complete them before graduating. I have taken far more general ed courses than major-specific courses, and I’m sure the majority of underclassmen have as well. Whenever I bring up how it seems counterintuitive that I’m memorizing the periodic table while attending college for a public relations degree, I am told that it’s about creating a “well-rounded” person.

The problem I have with this explanation is that I have already taken all these courses before in high school. The history course I am taking this semester will mark the third time I have learned about the Reconstruction era. I understand why it is important to know basic history, chemistry and English, but forcing

college students to relearn everything they already learned in high school? That’s just a ruse to steal money from us.

Imagine how much quicker we could graduate if we could immediately enroll in major specific courses. The whole reason we are paying absurd amounts of money to attend college is in order to get a degree in our majors.

Every internship I’ve ever had has told me I will learn far more in my short time with them than I will in all my four years of college. I have found that to be true. I already feel robbed by having to pay vast amounts of money and driving myself into debt to get a degree — but I feel even worse knowing that I am paying to learn things that I have already been taught and will not help me in my career.

For those college students who are still determining what their major will be, by all means take general ed courses. They can be beneficial in finding a career path. But for those of us who already know where we want to go and how to get there, general eds are a waste of time. I have changed my major once, but it had nothing to do with a general ed course. It had more to do with the major-

specific course I was taking not lining up with what I wanted in my future. So the argument that general ed courses help students change their career paths is a weak one, as I have found that major-specific courses can do the same.

The whole college process is already expensive, intensive and lengthy. Why make it longer with unnecessary classes? From where I stand as a college student, I can only see one reason: profit. While college students are drowning in debt because of these extra courses, universities are making money and keeping students here longer.

Universities need to give power back to the students, treat them as smart enough to choose their own coursework and let them decide for themselves whether or not they would benefit from general eds.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR REQUIREMENTS

Letters to the editor must not exceed 300 words. Students must include their full name, major and year. Faculty and staff must include their full name, position and department. Community members must include their full name and applicable job title. Verifiable statements of fact must include at least one source; if we cannot verify a statement of fact, your letter will

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HOROSCOPES

PHD • JORGE CHAM

Aries
You're getting stronger today and tomorrow, with the moon in your sign. Last night's Pisces full moon illuminates new inner perspectives. Plan your moves.

Taurus
Peace and quiet suit your mood. Relax and recharge. Take time to process changes in a group project. Find insight in unexpected places. Consider new views.

Gemini
Friends open doors for you through tomorrow. A professional turning point has you looking to new opportunities. Talk about what you want and share resources.

Cancer
Consider your dream career. Imagine it and find hidden opportunities over the next few days. Take charge for what you want. Investigate. Discover and explore.

Leo
Business travel or a research project could shift your routines over the next few days. Grow and expand your income with your partner.

Virgo
Negotiate and compromise. Work together to make money over the next two days. Discover your shared commitments and figure out how to best collaborate.

Libra
Collaboration with your partner is key today and tomorrow. Rearrange your schedule around health and fitness. Exercise, eat well, and rest. Support each other.

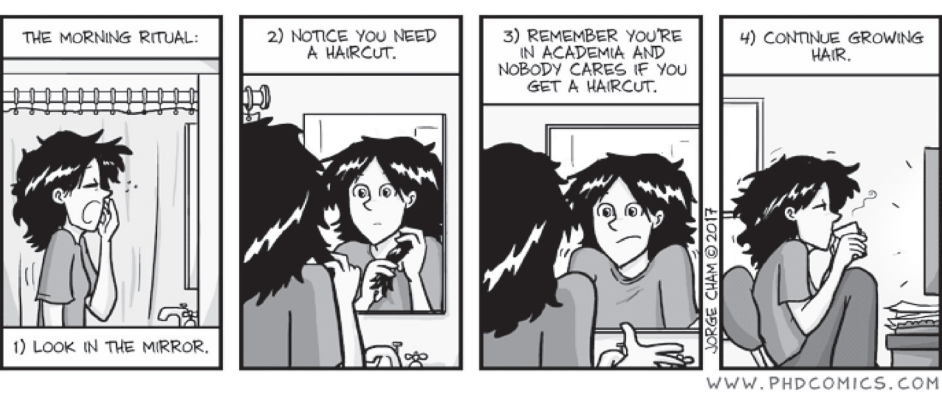
Scorpio
Focus on your work and health for the next few days. A new direction beckons with a romance, passion or love. Routines soothe and satisfy.

Sagittarius
Romance shimmers today and tomorrow. Let it wash over you like moonlight. Imagine a home project completed and beautiful. Settle into your nest together.

Capricorn
Family comes first today and tomorrow. Perfect your environment. Learning and creative expression flower; set up a space to practice your arts.

Aquarius
Use your words over the next two days to grow a profitable venture. Marketing and promotions provide satisfying results. Research and craft your pitch.

Pisces
Profits roll in today and tomorrow. Settle into a new self-image or personal brand. Take on a role you've wanted to play.



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Crossword

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

9/7/17

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Print editions
Tuesdays
and Thursdays

ACROSS

1 Drains

5 Takes from page to screen, say

11 One of Beethoven's nine: Abbr.

14 Party with tiki torches

15 Flashy Chevy

16 With 36-Down, Dr. Seuss classic with the subtitle "The Simplest Seuss for Youngest Use"

17 Cowardly Snoopy nemesis?

19 Seagoing "I see"

20 French film icon Brigitte

21 "The Racer's Edge"

22 Urban air concern

23 Much

25 Curriculum

27 Gloomy route to Oz?

32 Actress Vardalos

33 Butte relative

34 RadioShack predecessor

35 Automaker Ferrari

37 Watched closely

40 Fictional London alter ego

41 United

43 Halt

45 Belonging to us

46 Embarrassed three-person Vegas act?

50 Kentucky pioneer

51 Divided sea

52 Applaud

54 Old PC monitor

56 "Altogether ooky" family name

60 Rocker Ocasek

61 Primary mixes that affect 17-, 27- and 46-Across

63 Query

64 Fire up

DOWN

1 Untidy type

2 Certain something

3 Early late-night host

4 Ice cream treat

5 Polish caremovers

6 Apply carefully

7 Latin I verb

8 "Friday the 13th: Jason Lives," sequentially

9 Torrid Zone parallel

10 Junior

11 Words of reproach

12 Up-and-down toy

13 Downloaded video format

18 Jewish folklore figure

22 Mother of Isaac

24 Recipe amt.

26 B'way buy

27 Many of its knives have a limited lifetime warranty

28 Arkansas team

29 Mrs. Gorbachev

30 Compute

31 Salon worker

32 Twice-monthly tide

36 See 16-Across

38 Sicilian high point

39 Track events with mechanical lures

42 "Strange Magic" gp.

44 Museum with Goyas and El Grecos

47 Recital bonus

48 Red wine option

49 Gary who played Beethoven in "Immortal Beloved"

52 Outcropping

53 Songwriter Loeb

55 __ de force

57 "Dancing Queen" quartet

58 Bubbly maker

59 Old fast fliers

61 Player in an indoor tree

62 Soweto's country: Abbr.

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Sudoku

By The Mephram Group

9/7/17

6		4				2
				8		
	9	6		1		7
5					7	
9	3				6	8
	8					9
1		5		9	8	
		1				
5	8	2		7		6

Level

1234

How to Play

Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solutions to today's puzzle

6	9	1	2	7	8	5
2	5	7	2	8	1	9
2	8	8	6	9	5	1
1	6	2	9	8	1	7
9	8	9	7	1	2	8
8	7	1	9	6	8	5
7	1	8	1	9	9	6
9	1	9	8	2	6	7
8	2	6	8	1	7	9

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HOCKEYPAGE1

Third-year hospitality and retail management student Preston Durocher is attempting land his first roster spot on an ice hockey team in nearly a decade. A Detroit native, Durocher grew up playing ice hockey until he moved to Myrtle Beach at age 12. With the nearest ice rink 75 miles away in Wilmington, North Carolina, Durocher switched to inline hockey. He began playing in a house league in Myrtle Beach before eventually spending two seasons with the Charlotte Jr. Checkers inline program.

“I wanted something fun to do, something to get some stress off,” Durocher said of his decision to try out. “I’m just excited to play this year.”

Evan Hoey, a first-year business student, was also in his first college tryout Monday. Hoey last skated with the Raleigh Youth Hockey Association’s Jr. Hurricanes this spring. In April, Hoey’s Jr. Hurricanes captured USA Hockey’s Tier II Under-18 championship with a 3-1 victory over the Delaware Ducks.

The Jr. Hurricanes’ title represented the RYHA’s first national championship and the fifth USA Hockey championship ever won by a North Carolina-based team. By contrast, Michigan youth teams have led the nation with 160 USA Hockey national titles across all ages and skill levels since 1940. South Carolina is one of 12 states yet to produce one.

“It was hard to walk away from hockey after winning that,” Hoey said. In his first season, he hopes to catch on as one of Carolina’s top four defensemen.

As is the case with most SEC states, the game still has plenty of room for growth in South Carolina. But the Gamecocks are far from short on talent, suiting up prep school and junior players from the Northeast and Midwest.

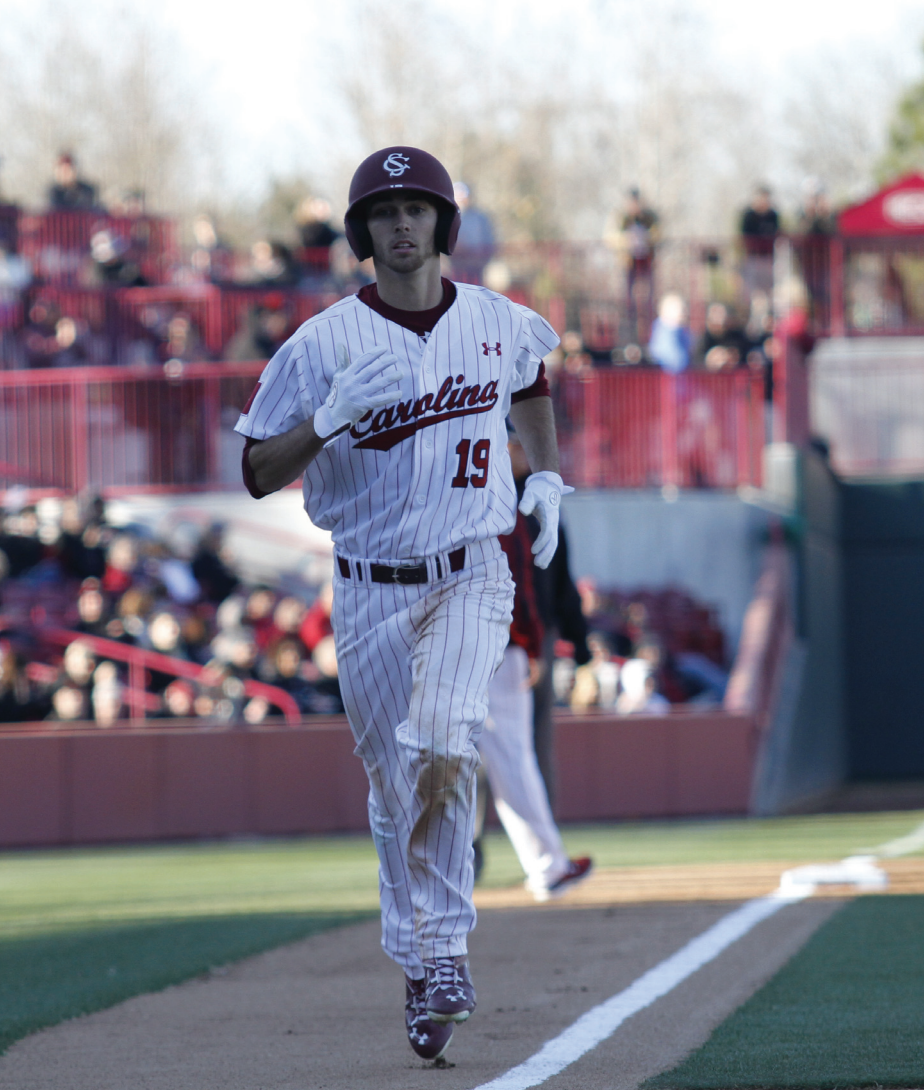
Davis saw action in the Tier 1 Elite Hockey League, which counts current NHL players Patrick Kane and Ryan Kesler among its alumni. He registered 14 points in 32 games with the Boston Advantage Under-18s in 2015-16, his final season before attending USC. Davis was second only to Ware with 12 goals last season.

Forward Jake Tengi, a third-year global strategic communications student, exited the TIEHL a year before Davis arrived. Tengi’s former team, the New Jersey Rockets, is directed by the same program that groomed nine-time NHL All-Star Jeremy Roenick in the mid-1980s.

Asked about Carolina’s chances in 2017-18, Tengi said he “definitely” sees another deep SECHC tournament run in the near future.

“We got a lot of strong young guys coming in, as well as a lot of strong returners,” he said. “The team this year, I only see it being as good or better than last year.”

The Gamecocks open the season Sept. 15 at home against UNC Charlotte, and the roster will be set on Sunday.



Jeffrey Davis / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Cone's 31-game hitting streak set a South Carolina baseball program record.

Cone reflects on first minor league season in hometown

Carson Mason
 @CARSONANNMASON

Unlike most minor league baseball players, outfielder Gene Cone didn’t have to worry about paying rent during his first full professional season.

The former Gamecock, who grew up in Columbia and attended Spring Valley High School, wrapped up the 2017 season with the Class-A Columbia Fireflies on Monday.

“It’s been great for a first full season for me,” Cone said. “I’ve enjoyed it very much. I think [it’s] probably been a bit easier on me being at home ... compared to other guys ... I think that’s probably the biggest thing for me.”

Cone finished the season batting .219 (69-for-135) with 41 runs scored. While he was sidelined for approximately two months on the disabled list with a leg injury, the 6-foot, 173-pound Cone said he found positive takeaways from the season.

The 22-year-old finished second on the team with 48 walks in 84 games and led the South Atlantic League with 42 walks prior to his DL stint on June 29.

“It had its ups and downs,” Cone said of the season. “It was a learning experience just how I think all minor

league baseball is. Just trying to keep making goals and strides to get up to the top.”

Cone was selected in the 10th round of the 2016 MLB Draft by the New York Mets. He played three seasons at South Carolina under former baseball coach Chad Holbrook and signed with the Mets following his junior season.

In his last season at USC, Cone recorded a 31-game hitting streak — the longest in school history and the longest in Division I baseball in 2016. Coinciding with that streak, he reached base in 34 straight games.

Cone finished his junior season hitting .363 (78 for 215) with 53 runs scored and 30 RBI, while owning a .474 on-base percentage and a .498 slugging mark. He also helped lead the Gamecocks to a Super Regionals appearance in the 2016 NCAA Tournament by batting .500 with a homer and eight RBI during the Columbia Regional.

As for next season, does Cone want to stay in his hometown Fireflies?

“If I had to choose, I would hope I wouldn’t be here,” Cone said. “It’s not up to me but [all] I can do is just work hard this offseason and try to get better.”

Women’s soccer preparing for Clemson

Allen Marcus Harter
 @ALLENMHARTER

Heading into a pivotal matchup against undefeated No. 4 Clemson on Friday, the No. 7 South Carolina women’s soccer team hopes to ride the wave of recent success from the freshman class and other key contributors.

The freshmen are quickly making their mark, accounting for six of the Gamecocks’ 12 goals this season, including three game-winners. Freshmen midfielders Lauren Chang and Sarah Eskew, and freshman forward Luciana Zullo all recorded goals in the first four matches of the season.

The last two matches have seen key contributions from fellow freshmen in forward Ryan Gareis and midfielder Bianca Galassini. Gareis netted home the game-winner against Notre Dame in the second overtime for a 1-0 win, while Galassini scored two goals in the second half for the come-from-behind win over No. 23 Michigan, earning SEC Freshman of the Week honors.

Another key factor heading into the in-state rivalry match is play from the forward duo of senior Savannah McCaskill and sophomore Elexa Bahr, countering the solid defense of the Tigers. McCaskill and Bahr both have three goals each this season, along with four assists from McCaskill. The Clemson defense has only conceded one goal this season along with holding its opponents to an average of 6.5 shots per game. Conversely, the Gamecocks have conceded five goals this season, but have only allowed opponents to take 7.3 shots per game.

South Carolina also must be up for the challenge on the defensive side of the ball, as Clemson boasts a trio that has found great scoring success. Graduate forward Jenna Polonsky, senior midfielder Jeni Erickson and freshman forward Mariana Speckmaier have combined for 11 of Clemson’s 14 goals this season, in addition to five assists.

USC sophomore goalkeeper Mikayla Krzeczowski has performed well between the posts this year, posting three clean sheets. This past weekend, Krzeczowski recorded a career-high nine saves against Notre Dame and four against No. 23 Michigan, earning SEC Defensive Player of the Week.

The Gamecocks and Tigers are both seeking a point in the Palmetto Series and a win before heading into conference play. These two teams have played competitive matches over recent years, splitting the series in the last four years with each match being determined by one goal. The Gamecocks defeated the Tigers, 2-1, last season.

This match is the first time South Carolina and Clemson head into a matchup while both are ranked in the top 10.

Missouri preview: Q&A with Associated Press sports reporter Charlie Clarke

Carson Mason
 @CARSONANNMASON

The South Carolina football team will hit the road to open SEC play against Missouri at 7 p.m. on Saturday at Faurot Field. Sports reporter Charlie Clarke, who covers Missouri football and basketball for the Associated Press, was present at the Tigers’ season-opening

win over Missouri State. The Daily Gamecock sports staff caught up with Clarke to get his observations on the game and to preview the upcoming USC-Missouri matchup.

Q: Missouri’s win over Missouri State on Saturday was a high-scoring affair with quarterback Drew Lock having a record-setting day. What were your observations from the offense?

A: “There’s no secret Missouri has a potent offense. Last week’s game simply reassured my assumptions coming into this season. Drew Lock looked incredible. But as with last year, I wonder, can he repeat dominant performances against SEC defenses? Missouri has a wealth of options on offense, which gives opposing defenses a handful, but a great offensive performance against Missouri State didn’t prove too much to me.”

Q: Missouri also allowed 492 total yards to Missouri State, an FCS school which averaged 321.4 yards per game in 2016. How do you think the defense will fare against Jake Bentley and his multiple offensive weapons, including Deebo Samuel, Hayden Hurst and Bryan Edwards?

A: “Missouri’s defense looked porous on Saturday, and now they face a steep talent incline against South Carolina’s offense. I don’t think USC’s offense is a huge concern, but if the Tigers are allowing nearly 500 yards and 40+ points to Missouri State, the Gamecocks could make a major offensive statement Saturday. In what I caught from USC’s game against NC State, Deebo Samuel is an explosive weapon who will cause problems for Missouri’s secondary,

which missed a slew of tackles against Missouri State. Missouri’s D improved in the second half last week, so I’ll be interested to see if that can carry over to Saturday’s contest against USC.”

Q: Which players were standouts on Saturday?

A: “Missouri’s main offensive weapons all had great days against Missouri State. Lock obviously set Missouri single-game records in both passing yards (521) and touchdowns (7). Receivers J’Mon Moore and Jonathon Johnson put up a combined 303 yards and four touchdowns on just nine receptions. Running back Damarea Crockett ran for 202 yards and two touchdowns on just 18 carries. Those four impressed me more than anyone else last week.”

Q: What is your prediction for the Missouri-USC game and why?

A: “I’ll say 37-34 South Carolina. I could see 37-34 Missouri too, but the Gamecocks really impressed me last week and the Tigers didn’t as much. I’m looking forward to the matchup between Lock and USC’s experienced secondary. This should be a fun, close contest till the end.”



Adam Collins / THE DAILY GAMECOCK